

The Battalion

STUDENT WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
Office, Room 5, Administration Building, Telephone 4-5444
Texas A. & M. College

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A Step Toward Better Feeling . . .

For many months now, Aggieland has been in dire need of correcting one of its most outstanding disgraces—that of the ill feeling between the Cadets and the trainees in the A. S. T. P. The meeting that should have occurred far sooner than it did, finally materialized the other evening. Members of the Senior Class representing the corps met with leaders of the A. S. T. P. in sincere and genuine fellowship to discuss and iron out the differences that have been on the constant mount on our campus. The meeting came about through the mutual desire of the leaders of the corps and the leaders of the trainees, and the results that it produced were most gratifying.

Whatever petty grievances, grudges, and peevish each representative formerly sheltered in his heart were forgotten, and those representing the two groups made every effort to correct the distasteful and ugly situation, and to bring about a "new era of good feeling."

That meeting was not held in an endeavor to place the blame upon some one group, but it was held to recognize the undesirable conditions that DO exist and that MUST be eliminated. Both sides were hasty in acknowledging faults, and both were even quicker in their offer to remedy the situation. Such is the spirit that Aggies are known for. That spirit of fair dealing has done the most to bring A. & M. the world fame that it now possesses, and anything less than that at that meeting would not have portrayed the Aggies in a befitting manner.

Two wrongs never have and never will make a right, and whether the blame lies with us or with them is not the issue. Nor is retaliation the solution. Only through meetings free of prejudice and malice will it be that these two groups can overcome their difficulties. That such can be accomplished has already been demonstrated, and now the success of this endeavor will fall upon the corps as a whole and upon the A. S. T. P. as a whole. The representatives have met and struck a means of eliminating the contention. They can do no more. It is now up to the majority of each side to see justice executed.

Everyone on this campus realizes that the trainees did not ask to be sent here, nor were they asked for by the corps. They are here, nevertheless. In one sense, they are our guests; we are obligated to treat them with certain respect and courtesy. Yet, while they are our guests, we as hosts are entitled to make certain demands of them. We must not encroach upon their rights, and they must not impose upon ours. There is little doubt but that most of them and most of us are aware of that fact, but we must not be content with mere recognition of our faults. We must move to eliminate as many of our difficulties as possible. It will be a purely "give and take" proposition. The two of us must have as our objective the firm resolution to do all in our power to bring about cordial and congenial relations.

If the two groups that met the other night speak for the remainder of their lot, there will be absolutely no difficulty in achieving our aims. Still, success will come only through the efforts of every individual now present on the A. & M. campus.

The Time Is Now . . .

That summer-time at Aggieland is the most pleasant time of the year has never been one of the Aggies' boasts, for we all know that old Sol shows us no mercy when he deals out his rays on the Brazos bottoms. This is the time of the year that all of us become listless and less enthusiastic in everything we undertake to do. We attribute that mostly to the climate at this time of the year, as well as the fact that A. & M.'s participation in sports is at a virtual standstill insofar as conference competition is concerned; and when Aggie sports lag somewhat, the Aggie corps is also inclined to lag a little in almost everything it does. No one disputes the fact that it takes a football team, a band, and a yell practice to instill real enthusiasm in everyone of us here, but few stop to think of the months of preparation spent during hot weary months just like these that are now upon us to produce a great team for the gridiron, a strong vibrant band to strut for us, and a corps of hundreds of cadets yelling their lungs out for that team and for that school they hold so dear.

Each of us MUST impress upon ourselves the importance of making the most of the present semester. Our professors and deans have urged us on with our studies, and we should profit by their advice and apply it to everything we take upon ourselves to do. We shall have to make every little second count in molding a cadet corps that will make us all proud when that football season does roll around. That means work for all of us, for we are going to have to have numerous yell practices for the benefit of the frogs and fish who do not know the yells and the procedures of a yell practice. We cannot expect and demand a yelling corps to spur our team on to victory this fall unless we prepare—and NOW is the time to prepare. Our team does not expect to be victorious without months of training, and so we now find them hard at their tedious, tiring hours of work-outs, scrimmage, and drills. Likewise, our band, throughout the summer, will be in constant preparation for the football season to give us one more Aggie band befitting our great tradition. The band and the football team are two of the three most important groups on this campus. The third group is the corps. The band and the team are preparing themselves "to strut their stuff" for the rest of us, and it is our duty to repay them. They do not deem these hot sweltering months trivial and they are going to carry on with their work as though the weather were nothing short of ideal.

The duty and responsibility of inaugurating and executing our objectives will fall upon the Seniors, but for a successful program of activities, the Seniors will expect and will be prepared to demand complete cooperation of the sophomores and juniors. The freshmen will not participate in the planning of these things, but their role will be one of the most important—that of forming the bulk of a mighty corps that will give A. & M. added strength through numbers. The freshmen can help themselves and they can help A. & M. by their willingness and eagerness to do all in their power to participate in intramurals, yell practices, sports, and all the other great extra-curricular activities. If the upperclassmen will lead them and provide the example, they can quickly follow and be prepared for their role next fall.

What all of us must come to, Ole Army, is the stark realization that our efforts now will determine largely the outcome of next fall. We MUST be hard at work all this semester. Hell and high water has never stopped the Aggies in the past, and a little disagreeable weather should not ruin one of our greatest opportunities to mold a corps that will thrive on Aggie traditions, customs, and mannerisms.

BACKWASH

Backwash: "An agitation resulting from some action or occurrence."—Webster.

By Junior Canis

After a week's exasperation of a few drops, the frogs and fish are gradually beginning to see a little light as to what is expected of them. Not uncommon at all for the past week have been gasps of disgust and despair on the part of the second year cadets, but in due time, the freshmen education should be under way enough to curtail those frequent emissions of despair.

The SU-PREME float-out of the year seems to have found its victim in the person of one Johnny Spragins. It seems that the said victim was reprimanded by a frog last week for not coming to attention at the table when attention was called for announcements during mess. The reprimand left Spragins speechless from sheer surprise; but to top that off, the frog, when informed of his mistake in identity, took the liberty of seeking proof of Spragins' classification by getting up and peering under the table to see if he were actually dressed in boots. R. A. !!!

Mr. William Harper has announced that the name so commonly applied to him be exterminated, buried, and forgotten. He claims that the name is detrimental and slanders his character, and he threatens legal action if it doesn't cease. It seems to Junior that the name fits and so long as whisk—that is Mr. Harper, objects it will stick.

It is rumored that Buddy Howland has decided to enroll his one and only in school here. Since the little beauty that is so frequently seen on the campus spends more time here than she does at Tesseland, it might not be a bad idea.

Those present in Dorm No. 2 last Sunday afternoon witnessed an attempt at murder when Russell Benson laid a gallon jug (emptied sometime earlier in the day) across Jimmy Henderson's head. The motive for the action is still undetermined.

It has been unanimously decided by all the company commanders under Delbert Runyan that he must refrain from reclining on the damp ground at night or buy

himself a good remedy for his hoarseness. That whisper of his doesn't sit well with the captains when he attempts to give a command. What about that damp ground though????

Anyone looking for Jay Pointer can find him the quickest by going to Austin, since his life these days is one constant excursion to that city.

No sooner does every one get organized in his company but what there is a buzz of forthcoming company parties. From the appearance of things, some people around here haven't yet recovered from those held last semester.

Wine, women, and song have taken their toll of casualties from the Junior Class. Since most members of that class devoted so much of their time to this trio, there is great difficulty finding anyone with enough grade points to qualify him to hold a class office or to run for yell leader.

It seems that one Frog Rattan is furnishing Dick Burch with women. Dick has recently filched a cutie by the name of Bert Kelly from the defenseless Frog Rattan.

The rumor of a huge fish ball this summer has really made a hit with the freshman class. That dance for the frogs and the fish has also made a smash hit with a certain other class on this campus. Junior thinks it is a swell idea and would like to see one come about. Let's go frogs and fish!

Scott Haggard has taken an inventory of all the freshmen in his outfit who own Cadillacs and who have a source of supply for fags. Mouse Spriggle has also been looking on with interest.

Another dance possibility is also sweeping the campus; that is, the idea of getting a name band for a corps dance sometime this semester. Junior understands that contacts are being made right now to get one under the auspices of the Seniors. Everyone is in favor of having as much entertainment as possible here this summer to break the monotony. Here's hoping the freshmen will come through with a huge ball and the seniors see their "dream" come true.

Good Neighbors

MEXICO . . . NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR

By Ruben R. Caro-Costas

When the Spaniards, led by Hernando Cortez, set foot on the unexplored coast around Vera Cruz, they found a rich, virgin country. New Spain they called it—then, Mexico.

The modern history of Mexico started with the landing of Cortez in Vera Cruz. The handful of men under his command overran half a continent and overturned the Aztec Empire, which consisted of a federation of little Indian nations under the control of a central government, that of the Emperor of Mexico, Montezuma. Highly skilled in arts and crafts, the people of the Aztec capital lived in houses built of red volcanic rocks in the middle of a volcanic lake high up in the mountains.

Aztec Influence Still Felt
It took two years of bitter fighting for the Spaniards to wrest control of Mexico from the Aztecs. They had defeated the Aztecs, but

they had not conquered them. For three centuries viceroys ruled Mexico for the Spanish crown, and the native people never ceased to struggle for the little which was left to them.

Mexico has never yet been conquered. Several countries tried it during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and failed in the attempt. The country itself—the land itself—is still the same. The culture which the Spaniards found when they came to the Aztec Empire has survived all outside influences; and the ancient Indian arts and crafts still flourish in the life of the Mexican people.

Mexico's Geography

Mexico spreads from the barren country below the Arizona border to the copper mines in Sonora. The state of Torreon is the cotton center of Mexico. Monterrey, the third largest city in the republic, is the iron and steel center of the nation. (See MEXICO, Page 3)

Your City

By Tad Moses

Housing Problems Becomes Vexing
Through the years some small businesses had been located just off the campus. Here and there in the college environs residences had been erected by parties unable to secure campus homes, and by those who preferred to own their own homes. With growth in the academic division there had been corresponding expansion by the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Extension Service. The Texas Forest Service had established headquarters on the campus, and staffs for these agencies had to be provided with living quarters. Hundreds of workers were attracted by the building program that was in operation all during the 1930's. Then came the Triple A with state headquarters on the campus and the housing situation went from bad to worse.

A business district was growing up in the north gate area and on the south side. Two real estate developments had been opened south

of the campus and another was being formed east of the new highway.

The board's vacation order launched a building boom that was curtailed only when the war effort created an acute shortage of building materials, and this building program is due to be revived at war's end.

A City Is Born

For several years there had been talk among residents both on and off the campus of incorporating the community to insure retention of the designation of College Station, Texas, for all time to come. This talk was revived in the latter part of 1937 and the early months of 1938. Several mass meetings were held and there was full discussion among the residents of the benefits and liabilities accruing from incorporation.

A delegation was selected to request a statement of policy from the board of directors and were informed the board would have no (See YOUR CITY, Page 4)

BETWEEN THE BOOK-ENDS

Edna B. Woods

Ernie Pyle has been called the GI's walking delegate to history. He became so successful as a plain man that he achieved a fame he never wanted. After Ernie Pyle's death on April 18, of this year, President Truman said, "No man in this war has so well told the story of the American fighting men as the American fighting men wanted it told. He became the spokesman of the ordinary American in arms."

HERE IS YOUR WAR, Ernie Pyle's first book, published in 1943, is the story of the North African campaign. BRAVE MEN, which came off the press late in 1944, begins with the invasion of Sicily, June, 1943, covers the fighting in Italy from December until April, tells of the feverish activity in England during the two months previous to the Invasion, describes the invasion of France, June, 1944, and ends with the first major break through the German lines. Since his books are actually his columns compiled, re-edited, and published in book form, they are more interesting when read in short snatches.

Ernie Pyle's dedication to BRAVE MEN, "In solemn salute to those thousands of our comrades—great, brave men that they were—for women there will be no homecoming ever," seems ironic now. For correspondents are brave men too. International law forbids them to carry guns; yet, their casualties are just as fatal. Twenty-three war correspondents have been killed in this war.

Before the War Ernie Pyle was a sort of roving reporter, roaming the Western Hemisphere. He always referred to Mrs. Pyle as "that girl who rides beside me." In his war books she is referred to as simply, "that girl." The farmers, lumberjacks, and bartenders whom Ernie Pyle wrote about in the old days became the privates, sergeants, and the lieutenants in his columns. At forty-four Ernest Taylor Pyle (always called Ernie, for there were no strangers among those who read his column) stood five feet, eight inches tall and weighed one hundred twelve pounds. He was tough and wiry; he could exist on a minimum of food and water; his vigorous laugh displayed his humor; his shyness

indicated his respect for others; his profanity was strictly GI.

Ernie Pyle's love for the Infantry was reflected in all of his writing just as it was in BRAVE MEN, when he compared the front-line soldier with the sailor. Although he believed that sailors might resent his opinion, he stated that sailor's weren't hardened as much as soldiers. "The front-line soldier lives for months like an animal . . . and was a veteran in the cruel, fierce world of death . . . everything in his life was abnormal and unsteady. On the other hand a ship is a home, and the security of a home kept the sailors more like themselves. Of course, when sailors die, death for them is just as horrible and sometimes, they die in greater numbers, but a sailor doesn't have to fight until the enemy comes over the horizon, and a soldier fights everything all of the time."

BRAVE MEN includes comments about several Texans. Perhaps, the best known in this area is Major Rollin Elkins, better known as "Satch," who, according to Ernie, went around in the green, two-piece coveralls of the Infantry. Lieutenant General Ira Baker, head of all the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, liked to flatter Ernie Pyle, when he had guests by saying, "I knew Ernie when he wasn't anybody; Ernie usually retorted, 'I knew the General when he was a captain.'" Charles Morgan of Glade-water, Texas, was a jovial mess sergeant in the famous Thirty-sixth division. And "what Warrant Officer Ernest Pike of Savoy, Texas, didn't know about practical ordnance could be put in a dead German's eye."

Of all the officers whom Ernie Pyle knew, none was so beloved as Captain Henry T. Waskow of Belton, Texas. Certainly, the most moving pages in the entire book are about him. A few pages tell the story, which achieves a perfect balance between death and life on the battlefield in the face of death. No other incident written about this war produces the same dramatic and saddening effect. It is done quietly and with sincerity. Ernie Pyle's book isn't all sadness. The humor of the American fighting man is healthy and abundant. From North Africa to Italy, from Anzio to England, and from

England to the invasion of France on D-day, BRAVE MEN is a real book. It is filled with deep but human philosophy, genuine men, and rocking humor; it is also filled with hate and war. But most important is the fact that BRAVE MEN is a story of hope, because the author, Ernie Pyle, saw in human beings the strength of character that builds new worlds and conquers new horizons.

Little trees make a future forest. Trees hold soil in place.

JAMBOREE

(Continued From Page 1)
behalf of the corps war loan drive. Scott urged 100 percent participation in the drive and predicted the Aggies would reach this goal without any trouble. The cadet colonel pointed out that most Aggies had either a buddy, a brother or a good friend somewhere on the battlefield, and that until the Aggies themselves go to war the best way to help in the war effort is by cooperating in buying stamps and bonds.

Maestro Turner announced another stage show would be given from Guion Hall theater stage next Wednesday night immediately after chow, featuring his Aggieland Orchestra and local talent. He urged Aggies who can perform, sing, dance, yodel, hop-skip-jump, or do any kind of specialty act to get in touch with him for a place on the next program.

Mature timber may be cut and turned into cash. Young timber should be left to grow another crop.

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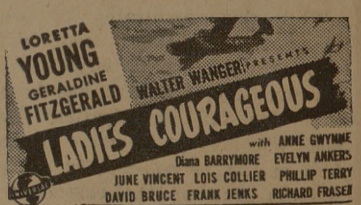


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No. 1



No. 2

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Brad Taylor

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and Porky Pig Cartoon

Sunday and Monday

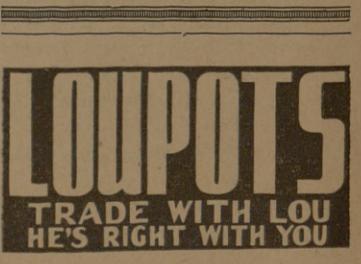
Rosalind Russell
Jack Carson

co-starred in
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Plus Merrie Melodies Cartoon

3 Days

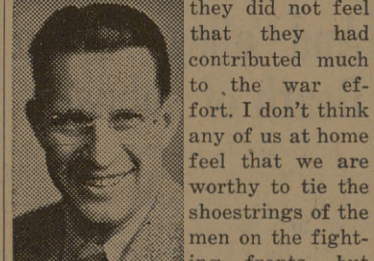
Tues. - Wed. - Thurs.



PENNY'S SERENADE

By W. L. Penberthy

Immediately after V-E day I heard many people express their joy over the unconditional surrender of Germany. Some of these people who had played an important part on the home front went on to say that they did not feel that they had contributed much to the war effort. I don't think any of us at home feel that we are worthy to tie the shoestrings of the men on the fighting fronts, but maybe our job is more important than we think.



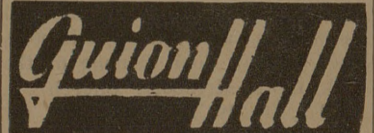
One of the chief jobs in the fighting of a war is that of supply, and that is where we can help.

I well remember that as a youngster in the North, snowball fights were one of the most popular sports during the winter months and the success with which we met was dependent to a large extent upon how fast we could make the ammunition. It didn't take very long for us to get smart and solve this problem by enlisting our little brothers, who were a little too small to throw the snowballs, into a miniature quartermaster corps whose job it was to pack the snow into snowballs and hand them to us. This increased our effectiveness to a very great extent.

When we buy stamps and bonds we insure our boys on the front an ample supply of snowballs in the form of grenades, mortars, bombs and shells and thereby make them much more effective fighters.

During the two weeks period, June 18-30, we are staging a War Stamp and Bond Drive as our part in the 7th War Bond Drive. By investing in stamps and bonds we are definitely taking a part in insuring that our fighting-men will not suffer from lack of supplies and ammunition. In addition, we receive interest from our investment so we are doing something

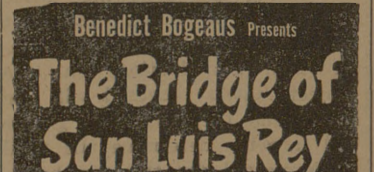
that benefits all parties concerned, and propositions such as this are mighty hard to find.



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